

November 2000

Dear Colleague:

It is a pleasure to send you the application for the year 2001 Governor's Nursing Merit Award. The Department of Health and Senior Services' Nursing Advisory Committee, which administers this important award program, joins me in encouraging your organization to nominate candidates in all the award categories.

Through this award program, Governor Whitman recognizes excellence in nursing. We acknowledge and value that nurses are a key component of our health care delivery system. They represent both the human side of care and the high quality of services delivered to patients.

Many providers have established formal internal processes for nominating candidates for these awards. Your institution/agency may wish to make arrangements to publicly honor your nominees. Public recognition is one way to support the vital roles that nurses perform in our health care delivery system and is an important goal of the awards program.

Award recipients will be chosen for each award category by selection panels composed of Nursing Advisory Committee members. Applications must be complete and either ***postmarked or received by February 28, 2001***. All nominees will be acknowledged in writing. Award recipients will be notified by their nominators.

The Department is pleased to invite members of your organization, nominees, family and friends to attend the awards dinner on ***Wednesday, June 6, 2001***, from 5:15 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Princeton Marriott Hotel. Invitations will be mailed to your organization and to all nominees. Award recipients and a guest will be guests at this exciting event. We look forward to enthusiastic representation by your organization at the awards dinner.

Thank you for your participation in this program and your contributions to the vitality of nursing. If you have any questions, please call Marcia Cook at (609) 633-7990.

Sincerely,

Christine Grant
Commissioner

Instructions for Completing the 2001 Governor's Nursing Merit Award Application

There are ten award categories:

Registered Professional Nurse: Acute Care
Registered Professional Nurse: Long Term Care
Registered Professional Nurse: Community Health
Licensed Practical Nurse: Acute Care
Licensed Practical Nurse: Long Term Care
Licensed Practical Nurse: Community Health
Nurse Administrator
Nurse Educator
Nurse Researcher
Advanced Practice Nurse

Health care facilities, agencies, or organizations may, at their discretion and with the consent of the nominated nurse, submit an application for any category. A facility, agency organization or individual may develop its own selection process for choosing a nominee. A candidate may also self-nominate.

Tips for Completing a Competitive Application

(All applications must be complete in order to be considered.)

- Type the entire application. Handwritten forms or applications will be returned.
- The Nominee Information Form must be used. (Do not retype.) This form must be on the top of the application.
- Applications must be complete. Every question must be answered and will be scored. All categories must be completed unless otherwise indicated. If a question is not answered, the application will not be considered.
- Please observe, and do not deviate from, the criteria in the application.
- Do not include the following: cover letter; cover page, video; letter of reference; pamphlets; job description; job evaluation; news paper clippings; educational materials; flyers; copies of articles; or any other addenda.
- Put the applications together in this order (1) Nominee Information Form, (2) Nominator's questions, (3) Nominee's final question, and (4) Nominee's resume or curriculum vitae.
- Applications must be stapled or screw posted together. Do not put the application in a three ring binder.
- Six (6) copies of each application [seven (7) for registered nurse] must be submitted.
- Only hard copies will be accepted.

This application is available at our Web site: www.state.nj.us/health.

The Process

Applications must be received at the following address or post marked **no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28, 2001:**

Governor's Nursing Merit Award
c/o Marcia A. Cook
New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
PO Box 360
225 E. State St., 8th Floor, East Wing
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0360

Applications received will be logged and tracked by the Department of Health and Senior Services. The applications will then be forwarded to the review panels for scoring. Incomplete applications will not be scored. The nominator will be informed by the Chair of the Commissioner's Nursing Advisory Committee if an application will not be considered.

A letter of acknowledgement will be sent to all nominees. Nominators will be notified by telephone if their nominee is selected to be a recipient for the 2001 Governor's Nursing Merit Award (GNMA).

All award recipients will be presented with a plaque at the June 6, 2001 GNMA dinner. All nominees who meet the criteria for their category and have submitted a competitive application will receive a certificate signed by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services. All nominees present at the GNMA dinner will be recognized by name and presented with their certificate.

If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Cook at (609) 633-7990 or mcook@doh.state.nj.us.

**THE GOVERNOR'S NURSING MERIT AWARD
NOMINEE APPLICATION
(THIS FORM MUST BE USED)**

Award Category: _____

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name & credentials listed as nominee wishes them to appear on his/her certificate.

Street address – home

City, state & zip

Phone numbers: (H)_____ (W)_____

New Jersey License Number: RN_____ LPN_____

Educational History of Nominee

	Institution	Dates Attended	Degree Received
Nursing Program		From	
		To	
College or University		From	
		To	
Graduate Program		From	
		To	
Other		From	
		To	

Please include a copy of the nominee's resume or curriculum vitae in the application package.

SPONSORING AGENCY

Nominator name, title & credentials

Agency name

Street address

City, state & zip

Phone numbers: (H)_____ (W)_____

e-mail address

**REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE
ACUTE CARE, LONG TERM CARE OR COMMUNITY HEALTH
NOMINATION CRITERIA**

Please supply all answers on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate the appropriate question number and heading.

I. General Information

- a. Identify job title.
- b. List major areas of responsibility.
- c. Indicate award category:
☐ acute care ☐ long term care ☐ community health.

II. Clinical Practice (25 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. assessed the patient and recorded appropriate nursing diagnosis(es),
- b. written goals that reflect the needs of the patient, the family and the community,
- c. implemented care that is consistent with recognized nursing or other relevant theories,
- d. maintained a standardized patient data base that accurately reflects the patient's physical, psychological and socio-cultural status, as well as progress toward stated goals,
- e. evaluated the effectiveness of care and documented ongoing revision of goals, and
- f. participated in the development and maintenance of standards for quality improvement.

III. Management (10 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. used case management, discharge planning, and coordination of community resources in the implementation of care, and
- b. participated as an integral member of the interdisciplinary health care team.

IV. Advocacy (10 points)

Give examples of how the nominee has served as a patient advocate.

V. Professional Qualities (20 points)

Identify ways in which the nominee has contributed to the profession including:

- a. leadership activities,
- b. participation, as a staff nurse, in research studies,
- c. memberships in professional organizations,
- d. continuing education activities, and
- e. community service.

VI. General Comments (5 points)

If there is any additional information **that has not previously been included in this application** that you would like to make known about the nominee, such as, special projects, public speaking, contributions to nursing literature, please include it in this portion of the application.

VII. This final problem and solution must be written by the nominee. (25 points)

Describe the most challenging situation you have addressed in your role as a registered professional nurse, providing a description of the problem resolution process you undertook.

a. Identification Process and Description of the Problem

Considerations: How was the nursing process used? What elements of critical thinking were applied?

b. Analysis of the Problem

Considerations: Were creative alternatives identified? What barriers were identified, and how were they overcome?

c. Implementation of the Solution

Considerations: In what ways was the self used therapeutically? How were barriers overcome? What follow-through was indicated? In what ways did resolution of this challenge go beyond the job description/expectations?

d. Outcomes

Considerations: Were outcomes identified at the beginning of the process? In what ways were individuals empowered? What was the impact at the facility, community, state levels? What systems were changed?

**LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE
ACUTE CARE, LONG TERM CARE OR COMMUNITY HEALTH
NOMINATION CRITERIA**

Please supply all answers on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate the appropriate question number and heading.

I. General Information

- a. Identify job title.
- b. List major areas of responsibility.
- c. Indicate award category:
☐ acute care ☐ long term care ☐ community health.

II. Clinical Practice (25 points)

Describe how the nominee has used the nursing process, including care plans and standards of care.

III. Advocacy (15 points)

Give examples of how the nominee has served as a patient advocate.

IV. Accountability (5 points)

Explain how the nominee has demonstrated responsibility and accountability as a licensed practical nurse.

V. Communication with Other Care Givers (5 points)

Describe the working relationships of the nominee with other caregivers.

VI. Professional Qualities (20 points)

Identify ways in which the nominee has contributed to the profession including:

- a. leadership activities,
- b. continuing education activities,
- c. community service, and
- d. membership in professional organizations.

VII. General Comments (5 points)

If there is any additional information **that has not previously been included in this application** that you would like to make known about the nominee, such as, special projects, public speaking, contributions to nursing literature, please include it in this portion of the application.

VIII. This final problem and solution must be written by the nominee. (25 points)

Describe the most challenging situation you have addressed in your role as a licensed practical nurse, providing a description of the problem resolution process you undertook.

a. Identification Process and Description of the Problem

Considerations: How was the nursing process used? What elements of critical thinking were applied?

b. Analysis of the Problem

Considerations: Were creative alternatives identified? What barriers were identified, and how were they overcome?

c. Implementation of the Solution

Considerations: In what ways was the self used therapeutically? How were barriers overcome? What follow-through was indicated? In what ways did resolution of this challenge go beyond the job description/expectations?

d. Outcomes

Considerations: Were outcomes identified at the beginning of the process? In what ways were individuals empowered? What was the impact at the facility, community, state levels? What systems were changed?

NURSE ADMINISTRATOR NOMINATION CRITERIA

Please supply all answers on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate the appropriate question number and heading.

I. General Information

- a. Identify job title.
- b. List major areas of responsibility.
- c. List nominee's degrees (**nominee must possess a minimum of a master's degree in nursing or a related field**).
- d. Attach nominee's job description to the application for the award.

II. Environment for Practice (25 points)

Describe how the nominee:

- a. created an environment that fosters exemplary practice,
- b. supported nursing research, and
- c. used health care resources effectively and efficiently.

III. Leadership (20 points)

Give specific examples of how the nominee has demonstrated leadership in his/her area of expertise. Consider significant contributions to professional and/or community.

IV. Health Policy (15 points)

Identify areas in which the nominee has taken an active role in advocacy, the development and implementation of public health policy or participation in social and policy change either within the institution of employment or with external agencies.

V. Scope of Influence (10 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. served in a consultant capacity outside of the institution where employed and how this has impacted health care,
- b. received state or national recognition (this may include certification), and
- c. presented or published.

VI. General Comments (5 points)

If there is any additional information **that has not previously been included in this application** that you would like to make known about the nominee, please include it in this portion of the application.

VII. This final problem and solution must be written by the nominee. (25 points)

Describe the most challenging situation you have addressed in your role and a nurse administrator, providing a description of the problem resolution process you undertook.

- a. **Identification Process and Description of the Problem**
Considerations: How was the nursing process used? What elements of critical thinking were applied?
- b. **Analysis of the Problem**
Considerations: Were creative alternatives identified? What barriers were identified and how were they overcome?
- c. **Implementation of the Solution**
Considerations: In what ways was the self used therapeutically? How were barriers overcome? What follow-through was indicated? In what ways did resolution of this challenge go beyond the job description/expectations?
- d. **Outcomes**
Considerations: Were outcomes identified at the beginning of the process? In what ways were individuals empowered? What was the impact at the facility, community, state levels? What systems were changed?

NURSE EDUCATOR NOMINATION CRITERIA

Please supply all answers on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate the appropriate question number and heading.

I. General Information

- a. Identify job title.
- b. List major areas of responsibility.
- c. List nominee's degrees (**nominee must possess a minimum of a master's degree in nursing or a related field**).
- d. Attach nominee's job description to the application for the award.

II. Education (25 points)

Describe how the nominee has established an educational framework that supports the development of clinical knowledge and skills that will advance the practice of direct nursing care.

III. Health or Academic Counseling (10 points)

Describe how the nominee has worked with students or personnel/patients to establish their goals and facilitate progress through their educational/clinical program.

IV. Scholarship – complete a, b, or c (25 points)

- a. Explain how the nurse educator participated in patient assessment through the development of screening tools, research projects or epidemiological studies.
- b. Describe the nominee's scholarly productivity: this may include the conduct and dissemination of research; presentations at regional and national conferences; or integration and synthesis of past research. (Attach a list of publications and presentations and submit **two** examples of nominee's scholarly work.)
- c. Give examples of the scholarship of teaching: "explore the frontiers of knowledge, integrate ideas, connect thought to action, actively engage in policy formulation, build networks of knowledge through collaboration, create innovative curricula and inspire students" (in Boyer, Ernest; Scholarship Reconsidered: 1990).

V. Scope of Influence (10 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. served in a consultant capacity outside of the institution where employed and how this has impacted health care,
- b. received state or nations recognition, this may include certification, and
- c. presented or published.

VI. General Comments (5 points)

If there is any additional information **that has not previously been included in this application** that you would like to make known about the nominee, such as special projects, public speaking, contributions to nursing literature, please include it in this portion of the application.

VII. This final problem and solution must be written by the nominee. (25 points)

Describe the most challenging situation you have addressed in your role as a nurse educator providing a description of the problem resolution process you undertook.

a. Identification Process and Description of the Problem

Considerations: How was the nursing process used? What elements of critical thinking were applied?

b. Analysis of the Problem

Considerations: Were creative alternatives identified? What barriers were identified, and how were they overcome?

c. Implementation of the Solution

Considerations: In what ways was the self used therapeutically? How were barriers overcome? What follow-through was indicated? In what ways did resolution of this challenge go beyond the job description/expectations?

d. Outcomes

Considerations: Were outcomes identified at the beginning of the process? In what ways were individuals empowered? What was the impact at the facility, community, state levels? What systems were changed?

NURSE RESEARCHER NOMINATION CRITERIA

Please supply all answers on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate the appropriate question number and heading.

I. General Information

- a. Identify job title.
- b. List major areas of responsibility.
- c. List nominee's degrees (nominee must possess a minimum of a master's degree in nursing or a related field).
- d. Attach position description to the application for the award.

II. Abstract (40 points)

Complete the abstract form for each research project.

III. Scope of Influence (15 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. received state or national recognition (this may include certification),
- b. presented or published (list publications and/or scholarly presentations resulting from research studies), and
- c. influenced the profession of nursing.

IV. Collaboration and Mentoring (15 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. developed other nurse researchers, and
- b. participated in collaborative interdisciplinary research.

V. General Comments (5 points)

If there is any additional information **that has not previously been included in this application** that you would like to make known about the nominee, such as special projects, public speaking, contributions to nursing literature, please include it in this portion of the application.

VI. This final problem and solution must be written by the nominee. (25 points)

Describe the most challenging situation you have addressed in your role as a Nurse Researcher providing a description of the problem resolution process you undertook.

- a. **Identification Process and Description of the Problem**
Considerations: How was the nursing process used? What elements of critical thinking were applied?
- b. **Analysis of the Problem**
Considerations: Were creative alternatives identified? What barriers were identified, and how were they overcome?

c. Implementation of the Solution

Considerations: In what ways was the self used therapeutically? How were barriers overcome? What follow-through was indicated? In what ways did resolution of the challenge go beyond the job description/expectations?

d. Outcomes

Considerations: Were outcomes identified at the beginning of the process? In what ways were individuals empowered? What was the impact at the facility, community, state levels? What systems were changed?

Abstract for Research Project

(Complete this form for each research project.)

Title of project

Date completed: _____

Funding: Internal (describe source) _____

External (describe source) _____

Role of Nominee: ☐ Principal Investigator

☐ Co-Investigator

☐ Other (briefly describe)

Please write an abstract for this research project.
(Please limit description to this area.)

[illegible]

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE NOMINATION CRITERIA

Please supply all answers on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate the appropriate question number and heading.

I. General Information

- a. Identify job title.
- b. List major areas of responsibility.
 - ☐ Nurse Practitioner
 - ☐ Clinical Nurse Specialist
 - ☐ Nurse Midwife
 - ☐ Nurse Anesthetist
- c. List nominee's degrees and certifications (**nominee must possess certification from the New Jersey Board of Nursing. The certificate number from the Board must be appended**).
- d. Attach job description to the application for the award.

II. Environment for Practice (25 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. evidenced exemplary clinical skills,
- b. supported nursing research, and
- c. used health care resources effectively and efficiently.

III. Leadership (15 points)

Describe how the nominee has:

- a. provided consultation that supports the application of expert clinical skills, and
- b. promoted excellence in patient care through needs assessment, program development and analysis of patient care outcomes.

IV. Health Policy (15 points)

Identify areas in which the nominee has taken an active role in the development/evaluation of policies affecting patient care management (e.g., case management, team nursing, shared governance, etc.).

V. Scope of Influence (15 points)

Discuss the extent to which the nominee has supported or contributed to the advancement of nurses and the nursing profession.

VI. General Comments (5 points)

If there is any additional information **that has not previously been included in this application** that you would like to make known about the nominee, such as special projects, public speaking, contributions to nursing literature, please include it in this portion of the application.

**VII. This final problem and solution must be written by the nominee.
(25 points)**

Describe the most challenging situation you have addressed in your role as a professional advanced practice nurse providing a description of the problem resolution process you undertook.

a. Identification Process and Description of the Problem

Considerations: How was the nursing process used? What elements of critical thinking were applied?

b. Analysis of the Problem

Considerations: Were creative alternatives identified? What barriers were identified, and how were they overcome?

c. Implementation of the Solution

Considerations: In what ways was the self used therapeutically? How were barriers overcome? What follow-through was indicated? In what ways did resolution of this challenge go beyond the job description/expectations?

d. Outcomes

Considerations: Were outcomes identified at the beginning of the process? In what ways were individuals empowered? What was the impact at the facility, community, state levels? What systems were changed?